

dense reed-bed some 30 feet behind. It looked about as large as a Song Sparrow, slate grey all over with black wings and back spotted with small white specks. The iris was bright red. Knowing it to be a Little Black Rail almost as soon as flushed, I shouted to my companions who immediately turned round and saw the bird while it flew past and back of me. They were able with glasses to make out all the color markings except the red eye. I had a pair of prism glasses, but was unable to use them as the bird was too near. The flight is much more feeble than that of any other rail with which I am familiar; the bird seemed barely able to sustain its weight in the air, while its legs dangled down helplessly behind. Unless seen at very close range this species would resemble, I think, a young Sora, though to anyone familiar with the latter species the great difference in size would be striking. Unfortunately I had no means of collecting it, and my last remark would seem to prejudice my case, were it not for the facts that (1) the Sora is a rare summer resident on Long Island, (2) its nest and eggs have never been found so early on Long Island as far as I know, and (3) in any case, it would be impossible for a young Sora to be on the wing by May 24. Finally I have been familiar with the Sora in all plumages for several years. Eaton in his 'Birds of New York' records five specimens of the Black Rail actually taken in the State, three of them from Long Island. It has also been reported as seen at close range on five occasions from the interior of the State. Accordingly this would be the fourth Long Island record and the eleventh for the State.—LUDLOW GRISCOM, *New York City*.

Richardson's Owl and Other Owls in Franklin County, New York.

—A specimen of Richardson's Owl (*Cryptoglaux funerea richardsoni*) in the flesh was recently received by the American Museum from Dr. Wm. N. MacArtney of Fort Covington, Franklin Co., N. Y. The bird was shot on November 14 in a cedar thicket near Fort Covington, in the township of that name, by Wm. N. MacArtney, Jr.

Dr. MacArtney writes that he shot one of these Owls in the nearby township of Dundee, Province of Quebec, within a few rods of the State line in 1879 or 1880; and about 1885 one taken in the same town was brought to him, the latter specimen being now in his collection. All three birds were secured in late fall or early winter.

Eaton, in his recently published 'Birds of New York,' states that there appear to be but two definite records of Richardson's Owl in the State, one from Oneida County, the other from Essex County.

Dr. MacArtney states that during the winter the Snowy Owl is frequently observed, and occasionally the Hawk Owl, Barred Owl and Great Gray Owl. The Long-eared Owl is seen at times, while the Great Horned, Saw-whet and Screech Owls are common, the rufus phase of the last being rather rare.—W. DEW. MILLER, *American Museum of Natural History*.

Lewis's Woodpecker taken in Saskatchewan.—A fine plumage adult male was taken at Herchel, September 24, 1914, and is now mounted in

the Provincial Museum at Regina. I do not know of any record of this species having previously occurred in this Province.—H. H. MITCHELL, *Regina, Sask.*

Prairie Horned Lark in Rhode Island in Summer.—While walking on the morning of June 25, 1914, down a road through some fields bordering Brightman's Pond, near Watch Hill, R. I., two birds were noticed running rapidly ahead of me. Finally they stopped and dusted themselves in the sand, permitting me to approach within close range by careful stalking behind a fence. They proved to be Prairie Horned Larks in fine plumage, the throat and sides of the head being very white. In about five minutes they flew away over a stone fence, uttering the characteristic lark note, but a long search failed to reveal them again. Two days later the whole territory was thoroughly searched, but the birds could not be found, and my hopes of finding some evidence of breeding were frustrated. The Prairie Horned Lark has always been rare in Rhode Island, and I know of no other summer record.—LUDLOW GRISCOM, *New York City.*

Crows Nesting on the Ground.—On a large Island at the head of Lost Mountain Lake, Saskatchewan, June 10, 1913, I found several Crows nesting on the ground. Some of the nests, which mostly contained young, were on the ground between wild rose bushes, others placed on clusters of rose and other low bushes, thus raised a few inches off the ground. I might add that within a radius of twelve feet of one of these Crow's nests was a Mallard's nest containing ten eggs and a Short-eared Owl's with six young, of various sizes.—H. H. MITCHELL, *Regina, Sask.*

The Bermuda Crow.—In 'The Ibis,' April, 1914, p. 189, J. N. Kennedy discusses the Bermuda Crow, alluding to the fact that Bradlee and I were somewhat in doubt as to what the species might really be. He rightly, I think, refers it to *Corvus brachyrhynchos brachyrhynchos* Brehm. Mr. Kennedy had before him one example from the British Museum collection, taken by Capt. H. Edmund, in February, 1875, which must have been very soon after its introduction into the islands. This specimen he says has less violet lustre on the feathers of the back than usual and was possibly an immature bird.

According to D. Webster Prentiss (*Auk*, 1896, p. 237), the Crow was introduced into the Bermudas from the United States, some twenty years before, increased rapidly and became a great nuisance, and in consequence was nearly exterminated. Since that time the crow has continued to exist, though in extremely small numbers in the Bermudas.

We have in the Museum of Comparative Zoölogy one adult (sex not determine) specimen, No. 63727, taken for us by Prof. E. L. Mark, in the autumn of 1912. This differs in no way from autumn killed crows from the eastern United States. It affords the following measurements:—wing, 319; tail feathers, 190; tarsus, 59; culmen, 47.5 mm. This specimen proves that the much discussed Bermuda Crow is *Corvus brachyrhynchos*